

COUNTRY Eastern Germany REPORT [REDACTED] 25X1

TOPIC Altenburg Airfield 25X1

EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED] 25X1

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 26 August 1952 25X1

REFERENCES [REDACTED] 25X1

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 1 - sketch on ditto

REMARKS [REDACTED]

1. The following flying activity was observed at Altenburg airfield between 7 and 17 July 1952:

7 July. Between 12:10 and 12:50 p.m., there was no flying at the field. Maintenance work was being done on the parked transport planes. Aircraft observed at the field included about 40 Li-2 transports, 12 IL-12 transports and 3 cargo gliders. [REDACTED] 25X1

8 July. The following take-offs and landings were observed between 3:20 and 3:45 p.m.:

Time	Observations Made
3:22 p.m.	15 Li-2s took off in 5 formations of 3 planes each
4:30 "	5 Li-2s took off
4:40 "	15 Li-2s landed in 5 formations of 3 planes each
4:45 "	5 Li-2s took off
4:55 "	5 Li-2s took off
5:07 "	3 IL-12s towing 3 cargo gliders took off
6:02 "	15 Li-2s took off in 5 formations of 3 planes each
6:10 "	3 IL-12s towing 3 cargo gliders landed
6:20 "	5 Li-2s took off
6:25 "	15 Li-2s landed in 3 formations of 5 planes each
6:30 "	5 Li-2s took off
6:40 "	5 Li-2s took off

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Time	Observations Made
2:03 p.m.	5 L1-2s landed
3:10 "	5 L1-2s landed
3:25 "	5 L1-2s landed
3:45 "	1 L1-2 landed.

All the planes which took off from the field headed west and the aircraft which landed came from the west.

9 July. At 5:30 a.m., two formations each of 4 MiG-15s crossed Altenburg. In the morning, about 40 L1-2s, 3 IL-12s and 3 cargo gliders were counted at the field. (1)

12 July. Between 8:40 and 9:10 a.m., the transport planes and cargo gliders which were previously stationed at the field were no longer observed there. (2) Maintenance work was being done on four jet fighters parked east of the southern third of the runway. (3) There was no flying. As fewer officers and EN were observed at the field, [ ] the personnel strength was reduced.

15 July. At 8:25 a.m., eight jet fighters were parked east of the northern extension of the runway. (3) Two of the planes took off at 9:35 a.m. heading south. A radio truck was parked next to the southern end of the runway. The personnel strength was reduced. (4)

17 July. Between 7:45 and 8:15 a.m., there was no flying at the field. Four jet fighters were parked east of the southern end of the runway.

3. On 7 July, [ ] an army unit bivouaced in the woods just east of the field border. The bivouac was camouflaged and guarded by sentries. The first north-south path in the woods east of the field was blocked by a guarded barrier from Kueennoebitz road to the south. Three camouflaged tents, 3 motorcycles with sidecars, 1 sedan and jeep [ ] were guarded by sentries wearing black-bordered claret epauletts. Each tent had an estimated capacity of 25 men. The bivouac was no longer there on 9 Jul. (1)
4. On 15 July, 6 canvas-covered AA guns in travelling position and 4 trucks, which were guarded by two sentries, were parked on the landing field. On 17 July, 7 tents and 1 jeep were observed next to the AA guns. (5)
5. Between 12 and 15 July, two construction sheds and a low wooden building of the Baunions construction supply dump on both sides of the entrance road to Wilschwitz were torn down. On 12 July, a new taxiway leading southward from the north end of the northern extension of the runway was completed. (6)

6.

7. [ ] Between noon and 5:15 p.m. on 15 July, two biplanes were observed flying. A truck loaded with boards moved to the field. There was no flying at the field between 1:15 and 5:30 p.m. on 24 Jul. Two twin-engine transports were parked at the field. The hangars were closed. (7) Two planes landed at 4:50 p.m.

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3. [redacted] troops with red cap bands, without vehicles, were unloaded on 6 July from two trains at Lhrenhein railroad station, southeast of Altenburg. The troops who allegedly came from Glauchau marched toward Altenburg airfield. They spent much money in an inn. (1)

25X1 9. On 8 July between 3 and 6:25 p.m., 30 twin-engine planes and 3 cargo gliders crossed Altenburg toward Gera-Weimar. Similar

25X1 observations had been made on 20 and 21 June. (1) Trucks [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] were observed at the field.

[redacted] Comments.

(1) The transport planes and cargo gliders as well as the army troops mentioned in paragraphs 3 and 8 were involved in an airborne exercise, which started on 19 June and was definitely terminated on 9 July, according to these statements. Elements of the Eighth Gds Army participated in this exercise.

(2) The IL-12s and cargo gliders probably left Eastern Germany on 10 July. They took off from Brandis airfield at 3 p.m. on 10 July and crossed alt Loennowitz on the same day. [redacted]

The air transport regiment equipped with Li-2s, which was permanently stationed at Altenburg airfield, was transferred to Brandis airfield on 11 July. [redacted]

(3) Four MiG-15s were permanently stationed at the field. They probably belong to the alert flight which had been advanced by units of the fighter division in Herseburg. The observation of eight MiG-15s on 15 July confirms previous information [redacted] according to which the fighter regiment from Brandis was transferred to Altenburg. [redacted]

[redacted] Brandis fighter regiment in Altenburg after 11 July, the last time being 2 August. Since the fighter regiment with 20 MiG-15s took off from Brandis airfield on 10 July, it appears that most of the aircraft were parked in the woods on the eastern edge of the field and, therefore, could not be observed

[redacted] The remaining 10 MiG-15s of the regiment have been stationed at Erfurt-Bindersleben airfield since 1 June 1952.

(4) It is possible that not all ground units of the fighter regiment arrived in Altenburg.

(5) AAA guns, probably of 37-mm caliber, are reported for the first time from Altenburg airfield. For present location of the guns, see Annex. It appears that the AAA guns are not yet emplaced.

(6) No clear picture on the present status of construction is available.

(7) It has not been determined whether the two twin-engine transports were left behind by the air transport regiment which was transferred to Brandis or whether the planes participated in the transfer of the fighter regiment from Brandis to Altenburg.

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